

Miller & Rhoads.

Weather Forecast—Cloudy to night; Wednesday rain.

Nearly the Last Chance for Christmas Furs.

Fur Scarfs.

One of them specially priced is \$18.50. Fine Fox Scarf, nearly 3 yards long, fine soft fur, with 2 large brush tails, with cord and tassels.

Comparing this scarf, with another similar one shown us the other day, it is worth twenty-two-fifty. Our price..... **\$18.50**

Sable or Black Marten Scarfs. Two large brush tails or six small ones, \$5 to **\$10.00**

Wide Sable or Black Hare Scarf, 6 tails..... **\$3.89**

Boa of Black Cat, with two large brush tails..... **\$1.69**

Boas up to \$2.00 for genuine Fox and Black Marten. You can get a scarf to match these scarfs as low as \$2.98, and from that \$17.50 up to..... **\$17.50**

Fur Coats

Are Christmas presents that don't need to be renewed the next year or a good many "next years" if you get a good one like one of these.

Good Electric Seal Coats, satin lined..... **\$17.50**

Fire Electric Seal Coats, large collar and lined with Skinner satin..... **\$25.00**

Some of them have Nutria collars.

Near-Sea Coats, best quality..... **\$37.50**

Best quality near-seal, fine lining, beaver collar, **\$50.00**

A Good Coat

Value To-Day

Is our Short Jackets for \$10.00 that are actual fifteen dollar values. All-wool kerseys in tan, castor, and black. Snug fitting and a splendidly tailored garment all through. Some of them have slot seams, and every coat in the lot made to sell for fifteen dollars.

\$12.50 Fine Kersey, satin lined, double inverted pleat in the back, elegantly tailored.

\$10.00 Monte Carlo 39 inches long, inverted pleat back, satin lined.

\$7.98 Kerseys, good quality, sleeves and bottom finished in rows of corded stitching, pleated back, satin lined.

\$7.50 Thirty inch Kerseys, pleated backs, splendid values.

\$6.48 Castor Beaver Coats, new inverted pleat, bell sleeves, turn back cuffs.

Underskirts for \$1.39.

You recollect what a fine "Lucille" we sold for \$1.25 this winter. These skirts are the same material—fine mercerized Satteen with a sheer like silk lining; made with seven rows of tucking, the top of the tuck finished with a band of self material—splendidly made skirts, and the material equal to what you'll find in the ordinary dollar ninety-eight skirts—\$1.39.

Ladies' Handkerchiefs, Neckwear and Gloves.

One or two picked out from choice stocks of the three articles merely as suggestions for you.

Our Mocha Gloves, for ladies, in black and grays, all sizes, pair..... **\$1.15**

New Satin Stock Collars, Irish effect, all combinations of colors..... **25c**

11-2 yard Long Coque Feather Boas, each..... **25c**

Hand Drawn China Silk Ties, all colors, each..... **50c**

Fancy Goods of All Kinds.

It's a great display this year and these values we offer to-day are only representative of what's to be seen in the departments.

People are buying them as they never did before, because they find full value received in everything, be it ever so little priced.

Gold Plated and Sterling Silver Brooches, fifty patterns, each..... **50c**

Handsome Bone Stick Fans, silk gauze, covered with spangles, each..... **\$1.00**

Sterling Silver Thimbles, in all sizes, in fancy boxes, each..... **25c**

Black Grain Leather Chastelaine Bags, leather covered frames, chamois lined, each..... **50c**

\$2.00 and \$2.50 Beaded Bags, assorted styles..... **98c**

Sterling Silver "French Gray Finish" Hat Brushes..... **89c**

Fancy Boxes Perfume, containing 2 one-ounce bottles assorted odors, box..... **25c**

Gentlemen's Royal Seal Cigar Cases, each..... **75c**

Ladies' Combination Pocket Books, in all leathers, plain and sterling silver mounted, each..... **\$1.00**

The Crowded Book Store.

Have you been in the Book Store within the last week? Did you ever see such crowds?

We don't mind saying it surprised us a little, even though we had anticipated lots of trade.

No shadow of a doubt but that we lead in the book business in Richmond.

We'll be crowded from now to Christmas Eve.

Don't put off too long coming in; every new supply we get is snapped up quickly.

There's a lot of pretty Picture

Fram's in this section. French gilt plate that will not tarnish. **25c to \$1.98.**

Holiday Umbrellas.

We call them holiday umbrellas by courtesy, as they're favorite gift things for Christmas, but if ever there was a sensible article for a present it's an umbrella.

Winter and summer, sunshine and storm, it's a faithful companion and the ones we sell will not "go back" on their owners.

Good ones as low as \$1.00. The best silk Gloria for \$1.00, with five-dollar handles, and then all-silk ones up to \$15.00. It's all in the handle after you go above \$3.50 or \$4.00.

The Bric-a-Brac Store

Has never been so complete in every way as it is this Christmas. We had a fine store in 1901, but it's a better one this year, and will be still better in 1903. If improvements in artistic pottery and china ware keep up their present rate of progress.

France, Germany and Austria vie with each other as to who can produce the best. It's sometimes hard to tell who is ahead—each excel in some things and we have secured the best products of all the foreign potteries, including the wonderful Royal Bonn, and they're all here for your inspection. We know they'll meet with your approval.

Bric-a-Brac is largely taking the place of other things as Christmas gifts, as people are giving more and more attention to the interior decoration of their homes.

It's a good sign in this bustling American life that we are at last beginning to give some attention to the finer sides of our nature.

If comments from both "home folks" and strangers count for anything our Bric-a-Brac and China Store has the finest collection of these things to be found in Richmond.

Miller & Rhoads

COAL CONTRACTS

The Health Committee Transacts Routine Business.

The question of coal contracts, so far as the Warden Company is concerned, was referred to the president of the Board of Health to make temporary contracts for the supply of coal for the department until next July, at which time the Warden contract would have expired.

city for one year to furnish coal for the crematory and other departments under the control of the Board of Health. Pay roll and bills were approved.

Sailed for Venezuela. (By Associated Press.) HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 23. E. M. S. Pallas, the last of the British fleet to leave this port this season, sailed today for Venezuela. The Pallas had been delayed here for overhauling and refitting.

TALK OF RACE FOR THE MAYORALTY

Honest Dick Says He Will Certainly Be in the Race.

CAPTAIN CARLTON MCCARTHY

He Says It Is Too Early for Him to Say, Hot Fight Expected When Committee Report Comes Up in the Common Council.

Captain Carlton McCarthy said last night he did not know whether or not he would be a candidate for Mayor at the next election.

"It's a year and a half off," said Captain McCarthy, and I cannot say what may happen. I cannot, of course, let politics interfere with my work this far ahead of the time."

There is no doubt, however, that if the election were within a month or two, he would be a candidate, and there is little doubt but that he will be a candidate when the time comes, if conditions are the same then as they are now.

Captain McCarthy's friends are anxious for him to announce himself, but, as he says, he cannot, so far ahead of time.

Mayor Taylor said yesterday that he would be a candidate at the next election.

The criticism given him by the subcommittee on Monday night did not in the least undo him, and he wore his same smile as he talked with a reporter about the weather, and other things not at all to the point.

"I'm as happy as a lark and you can tell the people that I am going to be a candidate again next time," he said.

WOOL WILL FLY.

When the report of the committee comes up in the Council the wool is expected to fly again. Mayor Taylor has some warm friends in that body, and it is not expected that the fight for the mayoralty. There are some who say there is no possibility of the Mayor being re-elected, but others are equally certain that when the time comes and the votes are counted there will be the usual majority piled up for "Honest Dick."

There is time enough to bring out plenty of candidates between now and the election, and while no one has declared himself for the race, it is confidently predicted that there will be enough mayoralty timber in the field to make the next race an interesting one. Mayor Taylor's followers will stick to him, and heretofore they have been numerous enough to elect him, but there is an independent vote that in case a popular and representative business man comes out will, it is thought, turn the tide and carry the day.

Snap Shots Taken in Hotel Loebias.

A striking figure about the hotel-lobbies nowadays is Colonel J. R. Purcell, Democratic politician, ex-member of the House from Prince William, dog fancier and breeder of fine horses. Colonel Purcell announced last night that he was again in the race for Governor, and that he would make it warm for some one before the final ball is run out in 1905. His breast was adorned with variegated ribbons and dog medals, and he had a kind word and a cordial handshake for all whom he saw and knew.

"The people are for me up in my section, and why should I not enter the race?" he asked. "I have the staying qualities and expect to be in at the finish."

"I would consider it a great honor to be Governor of my State, and if I never am it will not be my fault."

"I did not expect to run out for Governor," he said, "but I thought they were up against the real thing, but they did, and I am justly proud of it. My dogs are the finest on earth, and if you want to see some fine running for Governor, just wait until the judges say 'Go' in 1905."

Colonel Purcell says he is just down here to spend a little of his loose change with Richmond merchants. He will leave for his home in Prince William in a few days.

"Yes, I have heard some talk of opposition to John Rixey up in our district," said Colonel J. R. Purcell, "but he is the finest elector ever made down the pike, and that he is deserving of popular in every quarter of the district."

Colonel Purcell may come down here and in matters that do not concern them, but Rixey stays in Washington and attends to the business for which his people elected him to Congress. You won't find Rixey meddling in local affairs or with fights in the Legislature for or against any faction of his party. He is a splendid representative and knows how to attend to his own business and let that of other people alone."

Colonel Moses M. Green, of Fauquier, and Hon. J. M. Lovell, of Richmond, are the only out-of-town legislators still here, and they will leave together this morning. Colonel Green goes to his home, while Mr. Lovell will go to Baltimore to spend the holidays with friends in the District City.

Sergeant-at-Arms Frank B. Watkins, of the Senate, is still here, but will leave for his home today.

Mr. W. J. Gardner, once the popular chief clerk of the Hotel Lexington, but now connected with the clerical force of some Southern hotel, is in the city to spend Christmas with his parents.

Ex-Judge Sidney J. Dudley, of Hampton, is in the city and was among his friends at Murphy's last night.

Mr. S. R. Jones, a prominent merchant of Huntington, W. Va., was in the city yesterday. Mr. Jones, who has traveled the entire western portion of the United States, says that Richmond reminds him of Cincinnati, Ohio, and thinks with the pace of industry set in the last year by the city that Cincinnati will have to look to her laurels.

VIRGINIANS HERE. Murphy's—W. T. Young, Newport News; John Ingles, Abingdon; W. J. C. Goode, Charlottesville; James H. Smith, Virginia; C. J. Clarke, Ferguson's Wharf.

Lexington—John Negles, Radford; B. S. Shreve, Newport News; Charles H. East, Jr., Danville.

New Ford's—William H. Columbus, Va.; W. H. Adams, Manassas; O. S. Shackleton, Petersburg.

YOUR LAST CHANCE TO SECURE A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT AT HOLIDAY PRICES

A stock of several hundred Pianos was advertised several weeks ago from \$175 up, and Organs from \$25 up.

The remainder of the stock will be sold at prices advertised and on easy terms.

A large stock of Guitars, Mandolins, Violins and Banjos to be sold at and below cost.

We want to move this stock in order to increase our Talking Machine Department, and these instruments are almost given away.

SEE OUR STOCK OF GENUINE EDISON PHONOGRAPHS

Other Talking Machines and Records, &c.

THE CABLE COMPANY

J. G. CORLEY, Manager.

213 East Broad Street.

MANY CONTESTS FOR SENATORS

New Men Announced for Upper Branch of the Legislature.

By reason of the fact that the State Senators to be chosen in 1903 will have to vote for a successor to United States Senator Thomas S. Martin in 1903, there is already great interest in the nominations to be made next summer.

Almost daily some new candidate is being announced and a number of very lively battles are expected in different parts of the State. The terms of the Senators representing even numbered districts will expire January 1st, 1904, and in the preceding November election their successors will be chosen.

There is talk of Captain W. W. Baker, of Chesterfield, as successor to Senator P. V. Cogbill, who will probably not stand again, and it is said that Campbell county will put forward ex-Judge Frank Nelson for the seat now occupied by Senator Don P. Halsey, of Lynchburg.

Up in the Twelfth District Captain R. S. Parks, of Page, and Hon. D. C. O'Flanery, of Warren, are favorably mentioned, and may both enter. Senator Keezel will hardly stand again, and there may be several aspirants for his seat. The Thirty-second District is always fighting ground, and it is likely that next year Hon. Walter Jordan, of Nansmond, will oppose Senator William Shands, of Southampton.

In the Thirty-eighth District, Senator Tyler will have opposition if he shall run again, for the candidacy of Hon. S. Gordon Cumming, of Hampton, has already been announced.

These are but a few of the fights that are in prospect. There will undoubtedly be others and perhaps many of them.

PETITION REFUSED

Committee Declined to Refer Some Taxes to Richmond College.

After a meeting of some length, at which Dr. Ryland, of the Richmond College; Delinquent Tax Collector T. C. Waldorf; City Accountant McCarthy and Special Tax Assessor Williams spoke in reference to the sewer taxes at the college, amounting to about \$2,000, running from 1893, a resolution offered by Mr. Mills, recommending that the petition from the college that said taxes be refunded be refused, was adopted, and the committee adjourned.

Mr. James A. Gregory, of J. W. Sargent and Company of this city, has just returned from Kingston, N. C., and Greenville, S. C., where he went to superintend the fitting out of two new steam plants for the Imperial Tobacco Company.

The Exchange for Women's Work.

Is daily receiving fancy articles suitable for Christmas presents, such as Embroideries, Lace Work, Table Mats, Leather Work-Boxes, Collars, etc. Attention is called to the reduction in Hemmingway, Embroidery Silk to 40c per dozen.

Mince Meat, Fruit Cakes and All Christmas Delicacies Furnished.

THE LAST STRAW ON THE EXPORTERS

New Bonus Scheme From The Imperial.

CRUSH OUT INDEPENDENTS

English Paper Calls it an Impudent Proposal and Takes Some Sharp

Cracks at the Big British Trust.

The future of leaf tobacco exporters in this city and State is involved in the latest development in the tobacco world, which, through papers and letters from England, is just becoming generally known here. It would seem that they are to have taken from them that little left after the trust system entered England, which little, by the way, is practically their sole means of support.

When the Imperial Tobacco Company was formed and began to buy Virginia and North Carolina tobacco directly from the farmer and not through the middleman, the commission merchants in England and the exporters here—it removed from the latter a large slice of that territory from which they drew their support. It was a severe blow which knocked some of them out of business.

Others stuck to the trade with the independent factories of England which had not affiliated with the Imperial. But the latter has now instituted a movement against these same independent factories obviating for the purpose of absorbing them or driving them out of existence. The effect of this last straw upon the exporters can be easily imagined.

NEW BONUS SCHEME.

Advices received here are to the effect that the Imperial has issued a new bonus scheme, by which the wholesale and retail distributors place themselves entirely in the hands of the big trust. "It is clearly implied," says a British paper, "that only the goods and show cards of the company are to be displayed in the corner of the business, and the decision as to whether there has been a breach of agreement or not is reserved entirely to the company of it in the case. If at any time we shall be of opinion that you have failed to perform any stipulation on your part, we may wholly or partly refuse your participation in the benefits of the bonus scheme." "Except for the disabilities which it may be in the power of the Imperial Tobacco Company to impose as a penalty for non-acceptance, there seems little inducement in the bonus scheme itself to attract retailers. For a small proportion of the profits, divided arbitrarily, they practically place their business at the disposal of the trust. It is certainly a cheap way of practically securing the good-will of the tobacco trade, but it can scarcely be imagined that those to whom it is offered will accept such an important proposal. Such from a British paper about a British concern is significant.

CROWD THEM OUT.

The effect of this movement, if successful, will be to crowd the independent exporters out of the business. Many of the exporters would go out with their backs to the wall. The effect of the bonus scheme appears from the following taken from a recent issue of the Liverpool Courier: "It appears probable, however from the latest developments in connection with one of the most powerful combinations that have yet been formed, that immunity from the evils which are the ultimate outcome of the trust system cannot be counted upon indefinitely. The Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain and Ireland, Limited, which was formed with a real flourish of patriotic trumpets to combat the 'American Invasion' of our industries, has succeeded in beating its rivals from the field, and no wanjays so commanding a position that unless the same competitors themselves form a combine, the appearance of the scheme is in fact a re-assertion of trade and that as usual the poor old consumer comes out underneath."

"But it is well," it adds, "that the (consumer) should understand just where he is and not be bamboozled by any talk of the American invasion and about the vast economies in production and distribution effected by combination."

PRETTY CELEBRATION

Dorcas Society of First Baptist Church Holds a U. S. Affair.

The Christmas celebration of the Dorcas Society of the First Baptist Church held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the Sunday-school room was a very unique and pretty celebration. It was under the auspices of Mrs. L. B. Janney, and every particular of the pleasing programme was carried out successfully.

The whole room was beautifully decorated with holly and evergreens, and was particularly attractive. The most unique feature, however, was a garden wall, the bricks of which were boxes of candy.

On top of this wall were wreaths of holly and through the tiny faces of children peered, and their sweet voices raised and sang the story of the birth of Christ. The Dorcas class sang, and there were solos by Miss Lillian Taylor recitations by Mrs. C. G. Burton and vocal and instrumental numbers by Miss Edie Coffey, Mrs. Coffey and Professor Watson. The music of the whole occasion was directed by these three latter.

At the conclusion of the entertainment the wall was pulled down and a present and a box of candy were given to each child present.

ENTERTAINMENT OFF

Owing to Contagious Disease at Almshouse There Will Be No Celebration.

Superintendent George B. Davis, of this City Almshouse, has decided to do away with the annual Christmas entertainment at that institution this year because of the presence of a contagious disease.

A fine programme had been arranged for the occasion, but it was thought best to cancel the affair.

News From cartoon Fights.

Walter Gans has returned to his home from Rock Hill College, Ellicott City, and will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. Gans.

Mrs. J. W. Knapp has returned to her home, after a two weeks' visit to her parents in Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Ella Kyle, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. William H. Beveridge, left Monday morning to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents in Nelson county.

Mr. Blue Ragland, who has been visiting relatives on the Heights, has returned to his home in Ashland.

Mr. William E. Cravens left Monday for King William on a business trip.

Mr. Fred Galbraith, of the Union Theo-

logical Seminary, has left for Lynchburg.

Mr. Lynch, of the Seminary will spend the Christmas holidays with relatives in Lynchburg.

Mr. James H. Walker, who has been visiting Mr. Frank P. Chamberlain, of Chestnut Hill, has returned to Alexandria.

Mr. P. H. Moore, of Halifax county, has returned home, after a visit to Mr. Charles M. Jordan, of Brook Road.

Mr. John T. Williams has returned to Norfolk after a visit to Mr. T. J. Wilkinson, of Brookland Park.

Miss Carrie Parker, who has been visiting Miss Jones, of Miller Avenue, has returned to Baltimore.

Mr. Charles Maudslow, of Cumberland county, who has been visiting Mr. L. Smith, of Brookland Park, has returned home.

Mrs. Graham and Miss Jones, who have been visiting Mrs. S. P. Jones, has returned to Chesterfield.

Mr. W. D. Long, of Newport News, is expected home this week.

Mrs. B. S. Ragland, and family of Ashland, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cole.

Mr. William James, of Portsmouth, is the guest of Mr. Charles Williams, of Brookland Park.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS

LOST IN A POKER GAME

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

NEW YORK, December 22.—The sum of \$1,500 was lost by the Earl of Rosslyn, to three men at poker on the steamship Etruria. The Earl went to police headquarters to talk to Captain Titus. On his complaint detectives had arrested a man named Jerome McKay on the pier. Lord Rosslyn recognized another of the men in the game in a "Rogues' Gallery" photograph of "Doc" Owens, a card sharper.

"I am not a 'squalor,'" said Lord Rosslyn, "but when I realized that I had been in a 'skin game' I thought I should prosecute. I won only three pots in three days. Once I held a queen full pat. I did not get a bet, and only took in the ante."

When Lord Rosslyn appeared in the Jefferson Market Court, Magistrate Reuel read the code, and said: "The crime, if any, was committed on the high seas. I discharge the prisoner."

Then McKay and the peer shook hands.

WORKINGMAN CAPTURES

A VERY RICH BRIDE

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

PHILADELPHIA, December 22.—Frank Trenwith, who worked for \$1 a week at a mill, jumped to a fortune of a bride, who is worth \$30,000. His bride is Mrs. Jennie Lyons, a widow, thirty-nine years old. Trenwith has given up his job in Leobon's mill and gone South with his wife, to remain until May.

The bride met her young husband at a funeral and a friendship was formed. She then went to see him play in a match game of basketball. He was the star of the game. He was a bold suitor, and after a courtship of several weeks the proposal was made. The wedding was on December 17, at the Cathedral.

When they return, the couple will reside on North Broad Street. The bride is the daughter of Dr. A. J. Roberts, who left a large estate.

At the Theatres.

"Way Down East." With its pretty story and quaint characters of New England life, will be seen in this city for two performances, beginning to-morrow afternoon. The play has become so well known through successive performances that any reference to its chief characters, almost superfluous